

## Message Text

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ORIGIN PM-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 AEC-11 SS-15 NSC-10 L-03 PA-03 PRS-01 USIA-15

ACDA-19 SCI-06 EPA-04 CEQ-02 /144 R

DRAFTED BY PM/AE:GOPLINGER/DS  
APPROVED BY PM/AE:HGHANDYSIDE  
EUR/NE-MR. ANDREWS  
EA/ANP-MR. MCCALLUM

----- 020983

R 202225Z SEP 73  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA  
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON  
SECDEF  
DOD  
CNO  
NAVSHIPSYS COM WASHDC  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 187692

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS:MARR, MOPS, PFOR, AS  
SUBJECT:NPW VISITS TO AUSTRALIA  
REF; CANBERRA 4982

1. ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS, UK EMBASSY COUNSELOR  
WILBERFORCE CALLED AT DEPARTMENT SEPTEMBER 19 TO RELAY  
FOLLOWING INFORMATION FROM UK EMBASSY CANBERRA FROM  
"UNIDENTIFIED BUT RELIABLE SOURCE":

A) WHITLAM HAD ORDERED POSITION PAPER ON NUCLEAR-  
POWERED SHIP VISITS BY OCTOBER 21. PAPER IS TO BE AN  
"ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STUDY." STUDY HAS ALREADY BEEN  
PREPARED DEALING WITH SSN'S BUT IS NOW TO BE EXPANDED  
TO COVER SURFACE WARSHIPS AND MERCHANT VESSELS.

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B) WHITLAM HAD TAKEN OVER PERSONAL SUPERVISION OF NPW ACCESS PROBLEM FROM BARNARD AS RESULT OF "NUDGE" HE HAD RECEIVED DURING RECENT WASHINGTON VISIT.

C) WHITLAM WANTS BARNARD "TO BE READY TO ADDRESS THIS QUESTION" WHEN HE VISITS WASHINGTON IN DECEMBER.

2. WILBERFORCE ADDED LONDON WAS "MILDLY SURPRISED" THAT US HAD TACKLED WHITLAM ON NPW ISSUE SINCE IT WAS BRITISH UNDERSTANDING THAT US WAS PREPARED TO LET UK TAKE THE LEAD WITH AUSTRALIANS.

3. AFTER EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR REPORT, DEPTOFFS INDICATED BRITISH REPS HAD ALREADY BEEN KIND ENOUGH TO SHARE INFORMATION WITH US MISSION IN CANBERRA. (DEPTOFF NOTED DISCREPANCY RE DUE DATE -- OCT VICE SEPT; WILBERFORCE HAD NO READY EXPLANATION.) RE "NUDGE" PM WHITLAM REPORTEDLY RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON, DEPTOFF TOLD WILBERFORCE (A) WE HAD ATTEMPTED TO ESTABLISH FACTS AFTER RECEIPT OF INITIAL REPORT, AND (B) SO FAR AS WE CAN DETERMINE NPW ACCESS QUESTION WAS NOT RPT NOT RAISED DURING ANY OF FORMAL SESSIONS BETWEEN US AND AUSTRALIAN OFFICIALS. DEPTOFF THEN SUGGESTED NPW PROBLEM COULD HAVE BEEN RAISED INFORMALLY DURING ONE OF SERIES OF SOCIAL OCCASIONS OR ALTERNATIVELY, "NUDGE" MAY WELL HAVE BEEN RESULT OF IN-HOUSE GOA DISCUSSION BETWEEN PM AND EMBASSY STAFFERS OF INVENTORY OF OUTSTANDING US-AUSTRALIAN PROBLEMS. WINDING UP DISCUSSION, DEPTOFF OBSERVED USG HAS FOUND US-UK CONSULTATIONS ON NPW ACCESS MOST USEFUL AND INTENDS TO CONTINUE PRACTICE; INDICATED USG FULLY SHARED HMG ESTIMATE THAT VIGOROUS PRESSURE ON NEWLY SEATED GOA FOR EARLY RESOLUTION NPW ACCESS WOULD PROBABLY RESULT IN NEGATIVE DECISION WHICH COULD TAKE YEARS TO REVERSE; AND, NOTING THAT HMG REPORT SUGGESTS NEW SITUATING MAY BE EMERGING, DECLARED USG HOPED TO KEEP IN CLOSE TOUCH WITH HMG DURING NEXT FEW WEEKS. RUSH

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## Message Attributes

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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PW VISITS TO AUSTRALIA  
**TAGS:** MARR, MOPS, PFOR, AS  
**To:** CANBERRA  
**Type:** TE  
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